

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ward  
Serial No.: 10/768,263  
Filing Date: January 30, 2004  
Title: Mechanically Sealed Adjustable Gas  
Nozzle

Examiner: Christopher Kim  
Group A.U.: 3752

Mail Stop – Amendment -- Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450



**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

Dear Sir:

The Applicant has received the Final Office Action dated April 20, 2006. A Request for Continued Examination is enclosed. Amendments to the specification and claims are provided herewith on the enclosed pages in accordance with the current requirements of C.F.R. § 1.121 marked \*\*\* **VERSION SHOWING CHANGES MADE** \*\*\*.